Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 STR-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /108 W

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R 301716Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3954

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR EC

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PEPR TU IT

SUBJECT: FORLANI VISIT TO TURKEY

REF: ANKARA 4820

1. MFA GAVE US BRIEFING JUNE 29 ON TRIP BY ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FORLANI TO ANKARA JUNE 26. VISIT WAS PART OF ITALIAN EFFORT TO REDRESS BALANCE IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH GREECE AND CONFIDENTIAL

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TURKEY. MFA WAS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS FOR VISIT TO TAKE PLACE AS ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER HAS MET WITH CARAMANLIS THREE TIMES SINCE LAST VISIT BY TURKISH GOVERNMENT LEADER IN LATE 1976. FORLANI WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN VISITING ANKARA IN LIGHT OF CONCERN EXPRESSED AT WASHINGTON SUMMIT ABOUT TURKISH PROBLEMS.

- 2. ACCORDING TO MFA, FORLANI WAS "VERY SATISFIED" WITH VISIT. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSION OF TURKISH DEBT RESCHEDULING (REFTEL), BOTH ECEVIT AND OKCUN BRIEFED FORLAIN ON JUST-COMPLETED TRIP TO MOSCOW. TURKS REITERATED THAT VISIT WAS NORMAL STEP IN SERIES OF HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGES BETWEEN TURKS AND SOVIETS IN RECENT YEARS AND WAS ALONG LINES OF VISITS BY LEADERS OF OTHER NATO COUNTIRES TO USSR. BOTH ECEVIT AND OKCUN EMPHASIZED UNCHANGEABILITY OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO NATO, ALTHOUGH ECEVIT DISCUSSED TURKISH POLICH IN MORE GLOBAL CONTEXT, GIVING IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS MORE OPEN TO EXPANSION OF TURKISH RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.
- 3. AS TO GREECE AND CYPRUS, TURKS SAID THAT THEY INTENDED TO CONTINUE THEIR POLICY OF OVERTURES OF PEACE TO GREECE EVEN THOUGH GREEKS HAVE NOT RESPONDED. WHILE TURKS WELCOMED EC DECISION TO KEEP THEM INFORMED ABOUT RESULTS OF POLITICAL COOPERATION MEETINGS AMONG THE NINE, THEY WERE INSISTENT THAT GREEK MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNITY BE DELAYED UNTIL AFTER SETTLEMENT OF CYPRUS QUESTION. OTHERWISE, THEY FORESAW EITHER ANTI-TURKISH POLICY ON PART OF EC OR TOTAL PARALYSIS ON GREEK-TURKISH PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF INABILITY OF EC TO REACH CONSENSUS.
- 4. ON ARMS EMBARGO, TURKS REITERATED THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AGAINST REPEAL. ITALIANS, ACCORDING TO MFA, MADE CLEAR THEIR STRONG CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPORT FOR ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO GET EMGARGO LIFTED. GARDNER

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